

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 00343 240336Z

67

ACTION COA-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 INR-07 IO-10 L-02 NSF-01

NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03 RSC-01 OES-03 SS-15 SP-02 CG-00

DOT-00 DLOS-03 FMC-01 /076 W  
----- 019082

R 240130Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1892

INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 0343

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EWWT, SENV, PLOS, ID, JN

SUBJ: ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS ON SHOWA MARU INCIDENT

REFS: A. SINGAPORE 0318; B. SINGAPORE 0134

1. IN EFFORT TO ASSIST DR. SNYDER IN OBTAINING INFORMATION ON ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF OIL SPILL FROM OFFICERS OF PRIMARY PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT, AMBASSADOR CALLED GEORGE BOGAARS, PERMSEC, FONMIN, TO SOLICIT HIS ASSISTANCE. AFTER CHECKING WITH PERMSEC OF MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, WHICH HAS JURISDICTION OVER PRIMARY PRODUCTION DEPARTMENT, BOGAARS SAID THAT PRIMARY PRODUCTION HAD MADE A VERY PRELIMINARY STUDY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT BUT HAD BEEN TOLD "BY HIGHEST LEVEL" NOT TO PURSUE MATTER FURTHER. A PRESS STATEMENT BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN, REPORTED REFTEL B, WHICH CONFIRMED THAT SOME DAMAGE TO SINGAPORE'S MARINE ENVIRONMENT HAD BEEN OBSERVED, AND NOTED THAT CHEMICAL DISPERSANTS AND DETERGENTS ARE KNOWN TO AFFECT VARIOUS FORMS OF MARINE LIFE, BROUGHT A SHARP REBUKE "FROM SENIOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS". BOGAARS SAID ENTIRE MATTER IS "EXTREMELY SENSITIVE" AND NOBODY WANTS TO TALK ABOUT IT. AMBASSADOR ASSURED  
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BOGAARS THAT DR. SNYDER'S DISCUSSIONS WITH PRIMARY PRODUCTION

OFFICERS COULD BE HELD IN CONFIDENCE, IF NECESSARY, BUT BOGAARS SAID THAT DISCUSSION EVEN ON THAT BASIS WOULD NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR FEAR OF LEAKS.

2. COMMENT: GOS CAUTION ON THIS IS PROBABLY RELATED TO QUESTION OF DAMAGE CLAIMS AGAINST OWNERS OF SHOWA MARU, GOS NOT WANTING TO BE OPEN TO POSSIBLE CHARGES THAT THEY CONTRIBUTED TO DAMAGE TO MARINE LIFE BY METHODS USED TO ELIMINATE OIL SPILL. ALSO THEY MAY BE CONCERNED OVER POSSIBLE CHARGES BY LOCAL FISHING INDUSTRY THAT GOS ACTIONS MAY HAVE BEEN HARMFUL TO MARINE LIFE. CRONK

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SHOWA MARU, OIL SPILLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 24 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975SINGAP00343  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750026-0753  
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**Office:** ACTION COA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 JUL 2003  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS ON SHOWA MARU INCIDENT  
**TAGS:** EWWT, SENV, PLOS, ID, JA, SN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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